

**REMARKS**

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review of the patent application identified above. The Office Action dated December 30, 2003, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed. Claims 1-21 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent claims. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 13 have been amended, and claims 6, 12, and 14 have been canceled.

The Examiner objected to claim 14 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 1, 6, 8, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,555,114 to Narita et al. (hereinafter "Narita"); claims 2-4, 7, 9-11, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narita in view of the applicant's related art (hereinafter "ARA"). Claims 15-21 were allowed over the prior art of record.

The examiners objection to claim 14 is moot in that claim 14 has been cancelled.

The rejection of claims 1 and 6 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1 and 6 are allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer on the light absorption layer, the cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer being multi-layered and each layer of the cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer including sub-color filters for red, green and blue colors arranged in an alternating order, wherein each layer of the red sub-color filter reflects red light, each layer of the green sub-color filter reflects green light, and each layer of the blue sub-color filter reflects blue light" and "wherein each layer of each respective sub-color filter has a different central reflection wavelength." Narita does not teach or suggest at least these feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 6 are allowable over the cited references.

Narita is directed to a color liquid crystal display including a cholesteric liquid crystal layer for selectively reflecting a high efficiency circularly polarized light having a specific wavelength. (See Abstract.) With respect to the stacked cholesteric layers of Narita, one layer reflects right-handed circularly polarized light and the other layer reflects left-handed circularly

polarized light. Narita operates by converting light to circularly polarized light and then reflecting that light off of the cholesteric color layers. The cholesteric layer can only reflect either right-handed or left-handed circularly polarized light. Using two layers, one reflecting right-handed circularly polarized light and the other reflecting left-handed circularly polarized light, the majority of the light of the desired color is reflected. (See Narita column 7, lines 17-22, 65-66.)

Contrarily, each layer of each respective sub-color filter of the present invention has a different central reflection wavelength. Thus, multiple reflection wavelengths are used to reflect more of the light of a desired color. Therefore, Narita does not teach or suggest at least these features of the present invention.

The rejection of claim 8 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 8 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a single cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer on the light absorption layer, the cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer including sub-color filters for red, green and blue colors arranged in an alternating order, each of the sub-color filters being divided into a plurality of regions" and "wherein each region of each respective sub-color filter has a different central reflection wavelength." Narita does not teach or suggest at least these feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is allowable over the cited references.

The Examiner in the Office Action in reference to claim 8 states: "... note the additional Fig. 16 which discloses each of the sub-color filters of the single CLC color filter layer being divided into a plurality of regions in the vertical or column direction (col. 13, lines 49-51)." Figure 16 corresponds to Figure 15. In Figure 15 a matrix structure is shown that is formed by the intersection of electrodes. The color selection layers are arranged as shown in Figure 16 according to this matrix. Figure 16 shows the typical arrange of color filters associated with each of the pixels in the display. Any divisions shown are between pixels or subpixels, not a plurality of regions within each sub-color filter. Further, in the absence of a plurality of regions in each sub-color filter, there cannot exist regions, wherein each region of each respective sub-

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color filter has a different central reflection wavelength. Therefore, Narita does not teach or suggest at least these features of the present invention.

The rejection of claims 2-4, 7, 9-11, and 13 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 2-4 and 7 and claims 9-11 and 13 depend from claims 1 and 8 respectively, and are allowable over Narita for the reasons discussed above. The ARA does not teach or suggest the missing features discussed above either. Therefore, claims 2-4, 7, 9-11, and 13 are allowable over Narita in view of the ARA.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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